

has been successful in achieving interacted development of the North Eastern Region;

(b) if so, whether the Government have evaluated its work; and

(c) if not, whether the Government contemplate to revise its structure and reformulate its priorities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) The North Eastern council has contributed to the integrated development of the North Eastern Region.

(b) While making plan allocations, the works sanctioned under the Council's plan, the progress of their implementation and other relevant details are considered in the planning Commission.

(c) The Government have not taken any such decision.

Advanced Equipments to Security men

4715. SHRI KAMLA MISRA MADHUKAR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the special group employed for VIPs security in the Capital are in need of various advanced equipments for communication, bomb detection and metal detection;

(b) whether the latest technology equipments have been provided to them; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M.

JACOB): (a) to (c). Security unit of Delhi Police is equipped with some latest technological equipment for VVIP/VIP security. Delhi Police is making efforts to identify more sophisticated equipment with a view to improve their capabilities for VVIP/VIP security protection.

SC/ST Directors on NSFDC Board

4716. DR. (SHRIMATI) PADMA: SHRI RAM NIHORE RAI:

Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Board of Directors of National Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Finance and Development Corporation (NSFDC) has been constituted;

(b) if so, the number of SC/ST Directors on the Board; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and the time by which it is likely to be constituted?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI): (a) to (c). After the expiry of the term of the first Board of Directors of National Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Finance and Development Corporation (NSFDC) on 7.2. 1992, the new Board of directors of NSFDC with 5 non-official Directors, among others- 3 representing the Scheduled Castes and 2 representing the Scheduled Tribes will be constituted shortly.

Use of Coal and Natural Gas as source of Energy

4717. SHRI GANGADHARA SANIPALLI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to encourage use of coal and natural gas as

source of energy to reduce import of crude oil; and

(b) if so, the details of measures taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Pilot projects have been sanctioned for the use of compressed natural gas as substitute fuel in transport sector.

Steps are also being taken to encourage the use of coal in gradual substitution of other sources of energy.

Fishing Harbours

4718. SHRI N. DENNIS: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of fishing harbours functioning at present in the Western coast of the country;

(b) whether the Government propose to open fishing harbours along the west coast of Tamil Nadu;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) There are 12 fishing harbours functioning at present on the west coast of the country.

(b) to (d). There is no proposal with Central Government at present for establishing a fishing harbour on the west coast of Tamil Nadu. The State Government of Tamil Nadu has not made any proposal in this regard.

Indo-Pak Issues

4719. SHRIMATI BASAVA RAJESHWARI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the US had impressed upon both India and Pakistan to settle the outstanding issues amicably; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI): (a) and (b). Yes Sir; the US supports the resolution of Indo-Pak issues peacefully and bilaterally within the framework of the Simla Agreement.

Oil and Natural Gas In Tamil Nadu

4720. SHRI JEEVARATHINAM: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state the places in Tamil Nadu where oil and gas are available and the quantity thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): At present a total of around 740 tons/day of oil and 131500 M3/day of associated gas is being produced from naimanam and Adiyakkamangalam in Tamil Nadu. Production with commerce in 1991-93 from Kamalapuram where two wells are under worker.

New National seed Policy

4721. SHRI SUDARASAN RAYCHAUDARI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to formulate a new National Seed Policy; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?